

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 TRSE-00 OMB-01 ACDA-12 /084 W

-----012949 281531Z /72

R 281309Z MAR 78

FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8711

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY LISBON

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AMEMBASSY WARSAW

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BRUSSELS FOR EEC

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, SOCI, PROP, RO

SUBJ: EXCISING OBJECTIONABLE MATERIAL FROM JOURNAL

PROBLEMS OF PEACE AND COMMUNISM: ANOTHER DEMONSTRATION

OF RCP INDEPENDENCE

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1. ONE OF MORE INTERESTING SPEECHES AT LAST WEEK'S RCP CENTRAL COMMITTEE PLENUM WAS THAT OF ELDERLY JEWISH INTELLECTUAL AND LONG-TIME (23 YEARS) CC MEMBER BARBU ZAHARESCU, WHO MADE MATTER OF RECORD RCP POLICY TOWARD INTERNATIONAL COMMUNIST JOURNAL PROBLEMS OF PEACE AND SOCIALISM.

2. RCP PARTICIPATION SINCE FOUNDING OF JOURNAL 20 YEARS
AGO HAD BEEN GUIDED, ZAHARESCU SAID, BY POSITIVE CON-
SIDERATION OF PROMOTING FRIENDSHIP AND COLLABORATION
WITH ALL COMMUNIST AND WORKERS' PARTIES, AND, IN FIRST
INSTANCE, WITH THOSE IN SOCIALIST COUNTRIES. ROMANIAN
CONTRIBUTIONS HAD RESPECTED INDEPENDENCE OF ALL PARTIES
AND RIGHT OF EACH TO DEVELOP ITS OWN NATIONAL POLICIES
WITHOUT INTERFERENCE FROM OTHER PARTIES, HE CLAIMED, AND
HAD AVOIDED POLEMICS AND PUBLIC CRITICISM IN CASES OF
DISAGREEMENT. THE PROBLEM, IN RCP EYES, ZAHARESCU MADE
CLEAR, WAS THAT OTHERS HAD NOT ADHERED TO SAME PRACTICES.
"IN SOME PUBLISHED MATERIALS, AS AT SOME CONFERENCES,
THERE HAVE APPEARED ATTACKS AIMED AT SOME PARTIES--INSULTING
LABELS--WHICH IN NO WAY CONTRIBUTE TO THE STRENGTHENING
OF UNITY..." THIS, HE ASSERTED, IS IN VIOLATION OF THE
UNDERSTANDING REACHED IN 1959, WHICH HE QUOTES" "IN THE
PAGES OF THIS JOURNAL IT IS NOT NECESSARY TO DISCUSS THE
DIFFERENCES THAT EXIST BETWEEN SOME PARTIES." HAVING SET
FORTH JUSTIFICATION, ZAHARESCU ANNOUNCED THAT RCP HAS
STATED UNEQUIVOCALLY THAT IT NOT LONGER PUBLISHES AND
WILL NOT AGAIN PUBLISH SUCH POLEMIC MATERIAL IN ROMANIAN
LANGUAGE EDITION.

3. COMMENT: THIS APPEARS TO BE CULMINATION OF LONG-
STANDING DISPUTE BETWEEN RCP AND SOVIET-DOMINATED MANAGE-
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MENT OF PRAGUE-BASED VESTIGE OF COMINFORM PERIOD. ROMANIAN
POLICY IN PAST HAS VARIED BETWEEN TONING DOWN CRITICISM
BY BRIEF DELETIONS OF MOST OFFENSIVE PHRASES TO OUTRIGHT
REFUSAL TO PUBLISH ON TOPICS SUCH AS CHINA AND DUBcek
ERA IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA. ROMANIAN LANGUAGE EDICTON IS CURRENTLY
SEVERAL MONTHS BEHIND IN PUBLICATION--PERIOD LONGER THAN
JUSTIFIED BY TRANSLATION LAG. TIMING OF THIS STATEMENT,
AS WELL POSSIBLY AS REFERENCE TO CONFERENCE, SUGGESTS RCP
MADE FINAL EFFORT TO RESOLVE MATTER OF POLEMICAL CONTENT
OF JOURNAL AT RECENT BUDAPEST CONFERENCE OF PARTY IDEALOGUES
AND FAILED TO OBTAIN SATISFACTORY ASSURANCES OF STRICT
FUTURE ADHERENCE TO TERMS OF 1959 UNDERSTANDING, OR WERE
QUERIED ON THEIR HERETOFORE UNPUBLICIZED POLICY DURING
CONFERENCE DISCUSSION ON COMMON PROPAGANDA THEMES AND
REFUSED TO BE PRESSURED INTO CONFORMITY. IT PROBABLY SAFE
TO ASSUME SANTIAGO CARILLO WAS INFORMED OF OUTCOME AND
GOR DECISION TO MAKE MATTER OF PUBLIC RECORD ITS PRACTICE
WITH RESPECT TO JOURNAL FOR, IN CONCRETE TERMS, A GOOD DEAL OF
GOR CONCERN OVER JOURNAL'S POLEMIC CONTENT ALMOST CERTAINLY STEMS
FROM INCOMPATIBILITY BETWEEN MOSCOW'S AND
BUCHAREST'S APPROACH TO EUROCOMMUNISM. ONCE AGAIN, THERE-
FORE, GOR IS PROVING UNCOMPROMISINGLY STUBBORN IN

DEFENSE OF PRINCIPLE OF INDEPENDENCE OF NATIONAL PARTIES;
IN THIS INSTANCE, IN STRICT ADHERENCE TO ITS POLICY OF
REFUSING TO ALLOW CIRCULATION WITHIN ROMANIA OF VIEWS
HOSTILE TO THOSE PARTIES.

4. IT IS WORTH NOTING IN THIS CONTEXT THAT IT WAS PROUDLY
OBSERVED DURING CC PLENUM THAT RCP MAINTAINS (FRIENDLY)
RELATIONS WITH 90 COMMUNIST PARTIES, 23 SOCIALIST OR
SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC PARTIES, 24 OTHER PARTIES OR POLITICAL
ORGANIZATIONS IN DEVELOPING CAPITALIST COUNTRIES, 53 GOVERN-
MENT PARTIES AND 21 OTHER PARTIES AND PROGRESSIVE ORGANI-
ZATIONS IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND SIX NATIONAL LIBER-
TATION MOVEMENTS; TO ALL OF WHICH GOR APPLIES SAME BASIC
POLICY OF AVOIDING POLEMICS. WITH VERY RARE EXCEPTIONS,
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SAME POLICY APPLIES TO THE 130 GOVERNMENTS WITH WHICH GOR
MAINTAINS DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR RELATIONS.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PEACE, COMMUNISM, INDEPENDENCE, SPEECHES, CENTRAL COMMITTEE, MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 28 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978BUCHAR02011
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780134-0840
Format: TEL
From: BUCHAREST
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780320/aaaaaqhs.tel
Line Count: 139
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: e05881bc-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 26 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3189668
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: EXCISING OBJECTIONABLE MATERIAL FROM JOURNAL PROBLEMS OF PEACE AND COMMUNISM: ANOTHER DEMONSTRATION OF RCP INDEPENDENCE
TAGS: PINT, SOCI, PROP, RO
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/e05881bc-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014